And all our princes captiv'd by the hand
Of that black name, Edward black prince of Wales:
Whiles that his mountain sire,—on mountain standing[3],
Up in the air, crown'd with the golden sun[4],—
Saw his heroical seed, and smil'd to see him
Mangle the work of nature, and deface

Again, in the title to one of Sir David Lyndsay's poems: "How king Ninus began the first warres and *stroke* the first *battell*."

STEEVENS.

3 Whiles that his MOUNTAIN sire,—on mountain standing] Mr. Theobald would read—mounting: i. e. high-minded, aspiring. Thus, in Love's Labour's Lost, Act IV.:

"Whoe'er he was, he show'd a *mounting* mind."

The emendation may be right, and yet I believe the poet meant to give an idea of more than human proportion in the figure of the king:

Quantus Athos, aut quantus Eryx, &c. *Virg.*

"Like Teneriffe or Atlas unremoved." *Milton.*

Drayton, in the 18th Song of his Polyolbion, has a similar thought:

"Then he above them all, himself that sought to raise
"Upon some *mountain* top, like a pyramides."

Again, in Spenser's Fairy Queen, b. i. c. xi.:

"Where stretch'd he lay upon the sunny side
"Of a great hill, *himself like a great hill*."

Magnanimen agens, magnique ipse adminis instar.

Mr. Toilet thinks this passage may be explained by another in Act I. Sc. I.:

"——his most *mighty* father on a *hill*."

STEEVENS.

If the text is not corrupt, Mr. Steevens's explication is the true one. See the extract from Holinshed, p. 272, n. 2. The repetition of the word *mountain* is much in our author's manner, and therefore I believe the old copy is right.

MALONE.

4 Up in the air, crown'd with the golden sun,] Dr. Warburton calls this "the nonsensical line of some player." The idea, however, might have been taken from Chaucer's Legende of good Women:

"Her gilt heere was *ycrowned with a sonne*."

See also Additions to the History of the

"Item—I *crown* with *a song*"

Shakspeare's meaning (divested of its poetical finery) I suppose is that the king stood upon an eminence with the sun shining over his head. STEVENS.